

# THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the  
**Comstock Gold Prospectors**  
 Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018



## **BLACK BILLIE**

**Next Meeting: Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**  
**UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

(Mark your Calendars)

*Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

*Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

*April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

### **1 Year Gold – NYSE**

<u>01/16/2018 – Last</u>	\$1333.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1339.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1330.00

### **1 Year Silver – NYSE**

<u>01/16/2018 – Last</u>	\$17.06
One Year High (at closing)	\$17.20
One Year Low (at closing)	\$17.02

### **ALL MEMBERS WELCOME**

**Board Meeting is held at 6:30pm**

#### **General Meeting**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month

7:30 PM at the

Masonic Wadsworth Lodge #25

2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV

## **PRESIDENTS LETTER:**

Here we are in 2018! We are looking forward to a good year. When the weather warms up, we should have good luck on the Yuba and with a dry winter ahead dry washing should be good in Nevada.

The Club is re-wording the “licensed claims” documentation in order to be more equitable to the claim holder. We are providing better documentation on “claim usage”. On “licensed claims” please review: “Licensed Claims - License Highlights”. Please read the notes in ALL of our claims covering these changes (if any) and clarify our usage of the “licensed claims”. Thank you!

Also, hot off the press... it looks like we are going to have to pay an additional \$75 filing fee for Club’s California claims. Research by Claims Committee member Bill V. thought that we might be exempted. The Plumas County recording fee is being reduced from \$15 to \$14 (\$1 less because of the redaction of S.S. numbers (?), but CA’s Governor signed into law the \$75 tax (for low income housing (??) for each document...how can those in California continually put up with this (???)

We will be looking at a RUP and or a POP for access to the Ken Bennett this, Spring of 2018. Hopefully we can make this a Club outing with some “strong” backs, “hand” tools and chain saws. Bob T. just got a new MF tractor? Please stay tuned, we will have more to follow.

The election went as planned in November with the elected Board officials assuming their duties in January 2018.

Teresa J. was elected Treasurer with the retirement of Nadine M. after 20 years and only missing no meetings!

Thanks again Nadine and Teresa for stepping up.

Christmas party was fun for all that attended (about 70).

Good eats and prizes. A great group of volunteers that made it happen. Special thanks to Martina L. in support of her husband, Wade...above and beyond!

Also, to those that donated some great raffle prizes\* we give many thanks:

- Elgin pocket watches, an ornate watch chain and pocket compass (thanxs Cynthia and Wayne Farnham)
- White’s Metal Detector (thanxs Fran and Tom “Lefty” Leftwich)

- Fisher Gold Bug Detector and White's TRX Bullseye Pinpointer (thanks Tom Williams)
- GeoMc1 Gold Trap Sluice Box (thanks George McGee)
- \*Sorry, two wrapped items weren't identified...thanks for those donations!

We are considering selling some Club equipment as it is not being used and is difficult getting members to bring the equipment to outings? The Club trailer, which is not being used other than to store some equipment next?

**\*UPDATE\***

***Since Jim's letter came out, I have just heard via Bill Vogt that the Supreme Court have refused to hear the Rinehart case!!!!***

The Rinehart case has had another major setback. The US solicitor general submitted a briefing to the US Supreme Court that presented a completely false explanation of why the court should not review the Rinehart case.

This is frustrating, time consuming, and costly. Dredging in California is not coming back. We will just have to use other methods and fight to keep those alternative methods!

Back in our neck of the woods, several of us (10 or so) have attended the last 3 Washoe County presentations of the Lands Bill. The last one December 8<sup>th</sup> created such a stir with 9/10ths of those >50 attending expressed their objections to the presentation that it was totally out of balance favoring a land grab by non-residents of county & Nevada / paid lobbyists for a non-scientific wilderness justification to remove these lands from many uses and users. This is coming to a head and needs to be addressed by this month in writing and attending the meetings.

I know most do not want to be bothered, but they are talking of withdrawing over ~500,000 acres / ~500 sq.miles / nearly the size of the state of Rhode Island from current public uses and users!

The presentation in Gerlach (ranchers mostly) was completely different in content from those in the "cities" (Reno, Sparks). This cannot be tolerated! Some on the commission were not comfortable with the different presentations. What are the underlying agendas? The special interest groups "invited" to these presentations **DO NOT** represent the peoples of Nevada!

We again found out at the last minute of these meetings. They do not want the residents to know. We are drafting some proposals (not endorsed by our Club) and will keep you informed. I just think you all should know.

Yours truly...Jim

***"Reminder to Life/Honorary Members: Annual updates (renewals) are requested during the first quarter as required by the By-Laws."***

**Historian Update  
By Bill Vogt**

I have completed the photo album for 2017 and it will be on the Historian table at the January meeting. Most of what is in that album is also posted on the Club's website.

I have gone through the web page and removed all dated material and uploaded everything for 2017. In addition, I learned that the photos could be annotated so I did that for many of the 2017 photos. In this sense the website and album are very similar.

In 2017 the Club had two very successful outings, the Eugene Mountains and Nick's Mine. I was unable to attend either. I announced prior to both that I would not be attending either and asked for pictures to be taken.

I received no pictures. In addition, nobody volunteered to submit an article on the outings for the newsletter. I think our events need to be published and would encourage event planners take this into consideration in the future.

**LR2000 Class  
By Bill Vogt**

I am considering putting on another LR2000 class like I did several years ago. Whether I do or not will depend on what kind of response I get to this article. If you have an interest in attending the class or have questions, please send me an email at [wvogt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wvogt@sbcglobal.net) and to ensure that my wife and I don't send it to spam put "CGP - LR2000" in the subject line.

The classes will probably be in April or May and will be conducted in my home which is in the Northwest section of Reno. Each class will be limited to 3 students and will run between 2 and 4 hours in length. Most of the classes will be scheduled during the weekdays but I will allow for some evening and weekends. Once I have determined that there is enough interest I will send an email confirmation to those members who indicated they were interest along with a questionnaire.

The questionnaire will be designed to allow me to determine a respondent's computer skills, how familiar they are with the LR2000 and what days and times they would be available for a class. After I have analyzed the data from the questionnaires I will send emails to members with their scheduled times.

The classes will mainly focus on using LR2000 to research an area for possibly locating a claim. There will also be some discussion about how to locate a claim and some additional related material. The classes are open to all members including those members who previously took the class. The classes are free, and the only requirement is a member must have their own laptop with WI-FI capability and they must know how to use it.

If you are interested please respond no later than 02/11/2018 since it will take some time to organize and schedule the classes.

### **A Note from Jim McPherson:**

My wife and I love the Downieville area and spend quite a bit of our time during the summer months in the area.

We have been members of Comstock for 7 or 8 years and have really enjoy the claims on the North fork of the Yuba. Our problem is that the campgrounds only allow, 14 days stay and want to spend more time prospecting the area.

We have a 2005 slide in camper that we bought new and is not an eye sore. We also have a 4X8 mining trailer that we bring with us.

Our camper is fully self- contained and requires no hook up's. We are retired and in our 60's so are old enough to have learned how to respect another person's property.

We go to bed early and get up early and don't make noise or own an animal. We can pay weekly or monthly.

If you have a place or know of someone that would like to rent us a spot it would be appreciated.

We can be contacted by email: [jmcpher281@aol.com](mailto:jmcpher281@aol.com) , home phone: [916-331-2533](tel:916-331-2533) or cell [916-804-4272](tel:916-804-4272) I also receive texts.

Thank you, John and Peggy McPherson.

### ***A Special Note of Thanks:*** ***Nadine and Bud:***

Nadine and Bud would like to **THANK** the board and members of the **Comstock Prospectors Gold Club** for the plaque and gift cards to Lowe's that were given to us.

I was so surprised and many, many thanks again. The plaque was *Special* and the gift cards too.



**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD**  
**MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

**Call to Order:** President Jim Richards began the Board Meeting at 6:30pm.

**Board Members Present:**

Jim Richards, Justin Shaw, Teresa Jones and Wade Lavery. Member at Large: Harley Ponsler.

**Board Members Not Present:** Member at Large: Tim Bartlett.

**Support Staff at Board Meeting:** None.

**Claims Committee at Board Meeting:**

Chairman Mr. Shaw with fellow Board Members Richards, Lavery and Member at Large: Ponsler.

**Support Staff on-site:**

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt,  
Equipment Custodian/Raffle Coordinator: Mike Maxwell.

**Correction to Minutes:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Read by Teresa Jones.

Motion to accept by: Board Member, second by Board Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

**Membership's Report:** 339 members, 12 lifetime memberships available, Activity: 5 added, 2 dropped and none reinstated.

Motion to accept by: Board Member, seconded by Board Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

**Claims Report:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Old Business Report:** None.

**New Business Report:**

**\*ALERT from Wade Lavery, Club Secretary\***

Pause; did you know what the Washoe County Commissioners are up to?

In two weeks in my travels throughout my county, I asked 267 random citizens and exactly **ZERO** had any knowledge of the Washoe County Lands Bill!

Thank you for "Review of **Washoe County Lands Bill** by member Kevin M. Conway" and with that original enhanced by Wade Lavery for this newsletter.

**Abbreviation Definitions:**

**WSA** (Wilderness Study Area, a U.S. Federal definition)

**LWC** (Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, a U.S. Federal definition)

**BLM** (Bureau of Land Management, a U.S. Federal Department)

**FMW** (Friends of Nevada Wilderness, associated with and supported by?)

•**The** current wilderness proposal is overweight recommending 495,065 (773 square miles) new acres for wilderness designation. The state of Rhode Island is 1,212 square miles.

•**The** Wilderness Study Area's (WSA) being recommended for wilderness was studied by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and in its 1991/2000-2001 Record of Decision a majority were found to be non-suitable.

•Of the 592,693 acres of WSA's in Washoe County the BLM found 477,490 acres not suitable.

•We should release the non-suitable WSA acres in Washoe County and not ignore the BLM's recommendations for the non-suitable lands.

•We are also not exactly sure of the acreage being proposed. The 495,000 acres is what is on the Friends of Nevada Wilderness's (FNW) map dated 11/1/2017. However, a new map 10/13/17 is showing many additional areas as being eligible for protection. These additional lands include Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC). Are the LWC lands being recommended for wilderness status? Can we locate mining claims in these areas? Can we conduct exploration and mining? Can we use the roads and trails?

•The newly proposed wilderness areas will be off limits to mineral location and mining. As such this really is an anti-mining proposal. The wilderness component is not favorable for economic development.

•The proposed wilderness areas shall close many roads and curtail traditional and historic access routes. This is contrary to the concept of multiple uses for public lands.

•Our Washoe County already has 178,748 acres of wilderness including the High Rock and Mount Rose Wilderness areas. Certainly this is enough for Washoe County.

•We don't know what minerals we might

need in the future. Now one thought much about lithium 20 years ago. Now there is a rush to find new deposits. If we lock up the proposed land in wilderness we lose the opportunity to develop resources in these areas in the future.

•How do we fight fires in the protected lands (Wilderness Areas)?

•You can't even ride a bike in a Wilderness Area. Not everyone has a horse. Not everyone can hike to all areas in a Wilderness (disabled people).

•The Minerals-Energy-Natural Resources should be studied and their potential determined within all Lands recommended for protection. If the area has potential for economic development it should not be made Wilderness.

•Club's Christmas Party is Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup> with set-up starting at 5PM and serving at 6:30PM. There will be a tree and the train display again.

### Christmas Party raffle items;

Thank you for these donations by Tom and Fran Leftwich (gold dredge), George McGee (GeoMc1 Gold Trap Sluice Box) and Tom Williams (Fisher Detector, White TRX Pinpointer).

•2017 Year Club donations were made to:  
Geological Society of Nevada Scholarship nonprofit in Reno, Nevada CGPC Check# 4074 for \$250.00

Nevada Veterans Memorial Plaza,  
nonprofit in Reno, Nevada CGPC Check#  
4077 for \$250.00

Veterans Guest House, nonprofit in Reno,  
Nevada CGPC Check# 4076 for \$250.00

- Recognition of Nadine Miller's 20 years  
as Club Treasurer since 1998, (Nadine  
and Bud became members in 1996).  
Words cannot express our gratitude to  
Nadine's and Bud's participation in Club  
activities. Our deepest thanks Nadine  
represented by Lowe's gift cards  
purchased by CGPC Check# 4070.

Motion to accept by: Board Member, second by  
Board Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

**Outings Report:** None

**Report on Club Notices:**

See General Meeting Minutes.

**Motion to accept the Board Meeting Minutes:  
Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted  
and accepted by the attending Board Members.**

**Adjournment:** Jim Richards announced at  
7:12pm.

**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS  
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL  
MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

**Call to Order:** President Jim Richards began the  
General Meeting at 7:30pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Jim began the meeting  
by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:**

Jim Richards, Justin Shaw, Teresa Jones, and  
Wade Lavery. Member at Large: Harley Ponsler.

**Board Members Not Present:**

Member at Large: Tim Bartlett.

**Support Staff on-site:**

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt,  
Equipment Custodian/Raffle Coordinator: Mike  
Maxwell.

**Correction to Minutes:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Read by Treasurer Teresa Jones.

**Membership's Report:**

339 members, 12 lifetime memberships available,  
Activity: 5 added, 2 dropped and none reinstated.

**Claims Report:**

Website's forum is up. Submit your assessment  
forms. Please fill one out for Claim legal  
maintenance and Club's tracking claim usage.

We are and will be looking at claims that are  
underused to maybe move into something better.  
Member Jim Allen in applying for a "Road Use  
Permit" and/or a Plan of Operation for road  
improvement to his personal claim(s) where the  
Club's claim **Oro Mucho** is right next to his.

The Claims Committee shall await further details in  
this effort by Jim and outline future Club  
involvement. We hope to benefit in this knowledge  
in addressing the **Ken Bennett** road issues next year.

**Old Business Report:** None

## New Business Report:

### **\*ALERT from Wade Lavery, Club Secretary\***

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need in the future. Now one thought much about lithium 20 years ago. Now there is a rush to find new deposits. If we lock up the proposed land in wilderness we lose the opportunity to develop resources in these areas in the future.

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- The** Minerals-Energy-Natural Resources should be studied and their potential determined within all Lands recommended for protection. If the area has potential for economic development it should not be made Wilderness. End.

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Motion to accept by Board Member: second by Board Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

**Thanks for your support for our Christmas Party Potluck, Food from:**

Jim Richards, Wade Lavery, Janis Bond, Randy Watkins, Grant Garrison, Virginia Brown, Walter Nystrom, Janis Brown, Harley Ponsler, Irene Vogt, Nghia Fainelli, Dawn and Nora Crosby-Hart, Walter Nystrom, Sherm Tresca, Bill Vogt, Dennis Taylor, Anita Clark, Tom Gass, Ken and Cindy Mela, Fred Leissler, Keith Wilson, Grant Garrison, Tom Knowles, Kathy Burns, Teresa Jones, Mical Willner, Robert Swank, Michael Maxwell, Justin Shaw, Pamela Sanchez, Wyatt Erd and others with their good efforts!



Nadine Miller and Jim Richards



Christmas Potluck



Gifts



Grant and Amy Garrison



Wyatt Erds Dessert



Wade Laverg



Buying Raffle Tickets

*\*Personal Ads: Are free to Members for a maximum of three editions of The Gold Pan Newsletter!*

**Outings Report:** None.

**Report on Club Notices:**

- Outings Chairperson Position is open.
- Website is up and running, Try it out.

**Guest Speaker:** None

**Club Wear and Club Merchandise:**

**\*Clothing Custodian: position is now open.\***

**Looking For Outing Partner(s):**

Use our Website Forums Menu: then the Prospecting Contact List is available for members who wish to get together.

Sign up if you are going out or if you want to go out. Let us know what you want to do: panning, sniping or sluicing.

**CGPC Quarterly Assessment Drawing:**

No drawing.

**Guest Recognition:** None.

**New Members Present:**None.

**New Members Drawing:** None.

**Attendance Drawing:**

(ticket(s) supplied at sign-in table): In attendance CGPC's Gerry McFall ticket number was called for a Silver (ounce) round!

Come to our next meeting on Tuesday January 23rd, 2018 for the next Silver (ounce) round to be awarded!

**Membership Drawing for two Silver (ounce) Rounds:**

CGPC's member drawn; **Jeffrey Benik** of Reno, Nevada (not here)

Next meeting on **Tuesday January 23rd, 2018** we return to this draw for three Silver (ounce) rounds. A random number generator is used to select a possible winner from our Membership Roster and your chance to be picked is always a possibility.

Thank you for attending our meeting, hope you had a good time, your participation to be informed and also share your experiences is key to an active club such as ours, continue to see you again!

**Total attendance: 47**

**Members: 47**

**Guests: 0**

**Motion to accept the Club Meeting Minutes and adjourn meeting: Club Member, Second: club Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.**

Adjournment: Jim Richards announced at 8:06pm.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2018**

**President: Jim Richards - 775/225-2494**

**Email: [rsmokinguns@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmokinguns@yahoo.com)**

**Vice President:**

**Justin Shaw- 775/409-8560**

**Email: [jshaw@openmailbox.org](mailto:jshaw@openmailbox.org)**

**Secretary: Wade Lavery – 775/384-1668 (home)**

**Cell-650/823-8658**

**Email: [lavery531@me.com](mailto:lavery531@me.com)**

**Treasurer: Teresa Jones - 775/376-1787 cell**

**Email: [Teresajones5930@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Teresajones5930@sbcglobal.net)**

**Member at Large:**

**Harley Ponsler - 775/673-8532**

**Email: [HEPGEO@att.net](mailto:HEPGEO@att.net)**

**Member at Large: Tim Bartlett**

**Cell- 775/971-3202**

**PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES-  
SUPPORT STAFF- 2018**

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt  
- 775/747-3145

Email: [wvogt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wvogt@sbcglobal.net)

Facebook Co-Administrator/Newsletter Editor:  
Lisa Walls - 714/742-3024

Email: [comstockgoldprospectors@gmail.com](mailto:comstockgoldprospectors@gmail.com)

Clothing Custodian:  
**\*Volunteer Needed ASAP\***

Raffle Coordinator: Keith Wilson –  
775/775-450-5723

Email: [argoone86@gmail.com](mailto:argoone86@gmail.com)

Sergeant of Arms:  
Al Gottsch – 775/538-7316  
Email: [bodop72@gmail.com](mailto:bodop72@gmail.com)

Webmaster:  
David Terwilliger-home-775/ 241-0186  
Cell-775/ 530-8294  
Email: [dave@dptwig.com](mailto:dave@dptwig.com)

**NEW MEMBERS:**

David Garey	Yucca, AZ.
Doug Ruehl	Winnemucca, NV.
Irene Ruehl	Winnemucca, NV.
Eli Kiel	Lovelock, NV.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
RAFFLE TABLE...**

Help to pay for the meeting hall. Please remember to contribute. It does not really matter what it is. Clean out your garage.

If you don't have a use for it, someone else does. Don't throw it away; put it on the table.

One man's garbage is another's man's gold!  
Thank You!!

Keith Wilson  
Comstock Gold Prospectors  
P.O. Box 20781  
Reno NV 89515-0781  
Web site: <http://www.cgpgold.org>

**TO PLACE OR RENEW  
A BUSINESS AD:**

**SEND A CHECK TO:**

**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS**

C/O Editor P.O. Box 20781 Reno, NV. 89515-0781 Include your ad layout, and your phone number or email address.

Half Page Ad: \$25.00 per month  
Quarter Page Ad: \$12.50 per month  
Full Page Ad: \$50.00 per month



*\*Personal Ads: Are free to Members for a maximum of three editions of The Gold Pan Newsletter!*